

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication in the Office Action that claims 9-12 are directed to allowable subject matter.

Claims 9-11 and 13 have been amended and claims 14-23 newly added. The amendments of claims 9 and 13 are believed to overcome the objections applied thereto. The Applicant has amended claims 9 and 13 to recite "a same" so as to comply with the Office Action's requirement to do so.

Claim 11 has been amended to obviate the applied indefiniteness rejection. Since the scope of claim 11 has not been narrowed, no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Claim 13 now recites features of allowable claim 9. New claims 14-23 find support in Figs. 2 and 3 and the specification on page 1, lines 6-10, page 2, lines 3-12, page 3, lines 9-24, page 8, line 24, through page 9, line 23, and page 12, line 19, through page 13, line 3.

Claim 13 was rejected, under 35 USC §102(e), as being anticipated by Kaneko et al. (US 6,505,347). To the extent this rejection may be deemed applicable to amended claim 13 and new

claims 14-17, the Applicant respectfully traverses based on the following points.

Claim 13 now recites accumulating a plurality of groups into which a plurality of control data are classified such that each group comprises data that can be transmitted simultaneously. This feature similarly distinguishes allowable claim 9 over Kaneko. Therefore, allowance of claim 13 is warranted.

New claims 14 and 19 recite that first control data and second control data, which are multiplex packaged for transmission, concern abilities of a multimedia communication apparatus. The first and second control data may include, for example, H.245 messages, as recited in new claims 16 and 21. More specifically, the first and second control data may include, for example, a master slave determining message or a terminal ability information exchanging message, as recited in new claims 17 and 22.

On the other hand, Kaneko discloses electronic program guide (EPG) information that relates to the schedule of a broadcast program (see Kaneko abstract and col. 1, lines 17-35). Although the Office Action characterizes Kaneko's EPG information as control data, Kaneko's EPG information does not relate to the abilities of the apparatus. Accordingly, it is submitted that Kaneko does not disclose the feature recited in claims 14 and 19

of first and second control data concerning abilities of a multimedia communication apparatus.

Moreover, the inventions defined by claims 14 and 19 concern two-way communication, whereas Kaneko's broadcast system concerns a transmission technology in one direction. Thus, the technical field of the present invention, as recited in new claims 14 and 19, is substantially different from Kaneko's.

Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that Kaneko does not disclose the subject matter defined by claims 14, 16, 17, 19, 21, and 22. Therefore, allowance of these claims and all claims dependent therefrom is warranted.

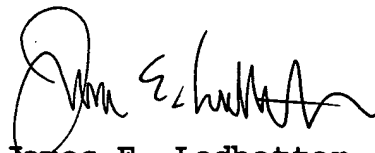
New claims 15 and 20 recite that the second control data is a message capable of being transmitted without waiting for response data from a communicating partner to first control data. On the other hand, Kaneko discloses that two sets of control data (NIT and CAT), which are collected into one group, are to be output during the same transmission cycle, in light of their data properties (see Kaneko col. 16, lines 54-61).

Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that Kaneko does not anticipate the subject matter defined by claims 15 and 20. Therefore, allowance of claims 15 and 20 is warranted for this independent reason.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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